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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-FIRST SESSION

H. F. No. 812

02/07/2019 Authored by Wazlawik, Kunesh-Podein, Moller, Pinto, Becker-Finn and others
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to public safety; expanding criminal sexual conduct offenses for persons
1.3 in current or recent positions of authority over juveniles; amending Minnesota
1.4 Statutes 2018, sections 609.341, subdivision 10; 609.342, subdivision 1; 609.343,
1.5 subdivision 1; 609.344, subdivision 1; 609.345, subdivision 1.

1.6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.7 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 609.341, subdivision 10, is amended to read:

1.8 Subd. 10. **Current or recent position of authority.** "Current or recent position of
1.9 authority" includes but is not limited to any person who is a parent or acting in the place of
1.10 a parent and charged with or assumes any of a parent's rights, duties or responsibilities to
1.11 a child, or a person who is charged with or assumes any duty or responsibility for the health,
1.12 welfare, or supervision of a child, either independently or through another, no matter how
1.13 brief, at the time of or within 120 days immediately preceding the act. For the purposes of
1.14 subdivision 11, "position of authority" includes a psychotherapist.

1.15 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective August 1, 2019, and applies to crimes
1.16 committed on or after that date.

1.17 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 609.342, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

1.18 Subdivision 1. **Crime defined.** A person who engages in sexual penetration with another
1.19 person, or in sexual contact with a person under 13 years of age as defined in section 609.341,
1.20 subdivision 11, paragraph (c), is guilty of criminal sexual conduct in the first degree if any
1.21 of the following circumstances exists:

2.1 (a) the complainant is under 13 years of age and the actor is more than 36 months older
2.2 than the complainant. Neither mistake as to the complainant's age nor consent to the act by
2.3 the complainant is a defense;

2.4 (b) the complainant is at least 13 years of age but less than 16 years of age and the actor
2.5 is more than 48 months older than the complainant and in a current or recent position of
2.6 authority over the complainant. Neither mistake as to the complainant's age nor consent to
2.7 the act by the complainant is a defense;

2.8 (c) circumstances existing at the time of the act cause the complainant to have a
2.9 reasonable fear of imminent great bodily harm to the complainant or another;

2.10 (d) the actor is armed with a dangerous weapon or any article used or fashioned in a
2.11 manner to lead the complainant to reasonably believe it to be a dangerous weapon and uses
2.12 or threatens to use the weapon or article to cause the complainant to submit;

2.13 (e) the actor causes personal injury to the complainant, and either of the following
2.14 circumstances exist:

2.15 (i) the actor uses force or coercion to accomplish sexual penetration; or

2.16 (ii) the actor knows or has reason to know that the complainant is mentally impaired,
2.17 mentally incapacitated, or physically helpless;

2.18 (f) the actor is aided or abetted by one or more accomplices within the meaning of section
2.19 609.05, and either of the following circumstances exists:

2.20 (i) an accomplice uses force or coercion to cause the complainant to submit; or

2.21 (ii) an accomplice is armed with a dangerous weapon or any article used or fashioned
2.22 in a manner to lead the complainant reasonably to believe it to be a dangerous weapon and
2.23 uses or threatens to use the weapon or article to cause the complainant to submit;

2.24 (g) the actor has a significant relationship to the complainant and the complainant was
2.25 under 16 years of age at the time of the sexual penetration. Neither mistake as to the
2.26 complainant's age nor consent to the act by the complainant is a defense; or

2.27 (h) the actor has a significant relationship to the complainant, the complainant was under
2.28 16 years of age at the time of the sexual penetration, and:

2.29 (i) the actor or an accomplice used force or coercion to accomplish the penetration;

2.30 (ii) the complainant suffered personal injury; or

2.31 (iii) the sexual abuse involved multiple acts committed over an extended period of time.

3.1 Neither mistake as to the complainant's age nor consent to the act by the complainant is
3.2 a defense.

3.3 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective August 1, 2019, and applies to crimes
3.4 committed on or after that date.

3.5 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 609.343, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

3.6 Subdivision 1. **Crime defined.** A person who engages in sexual contact with another
3.7 person is guilty of criminal sexual conduct in the second degree if any of the following
3.8 circumstances exists:

3.9 (a) the complainant is under 13 years of age and the actor is more than 36 months older
3.10 than the complainant. Neither mistake as to the complainant's age nor consent to the act by
3.11 the complainant is a defense. In a prosecution under this clause, the state is not required to
3.12 prove that the sexual contact was coerced;

3.13 (b) the complainant is at least 13 but less than 16 years of age and the actor is more than
3.14 48 months older than the complainant and in a current or recent position of authority over
3.15 the complainant. Neither mistake as to the complainant's age nor consent to the act by the
3.16 complainant is a defense;

3.17 (c) circumstances existing at the time of the act cause the complainant to have a
3.18 reasonable fear of imminent great bodily harm to the complainant or another;

3.19 (d) the actor is armed with a dangerous weapon or any article used or fashioned in a
3.20 manner to lead the complainant to reasonably believe it to be a dangerous weapon and uses
3.21 or threatens to use the dangerous weapon to cause the complainant to submit;

3.22 (e) the actor causes personal injury to the complainant, and either of the following
3.23 circumstances exist:

3.24 (i) the actor uses force or coercion to accomplish the sexual contact; or

3.25 (ii) the actor knows or has reason to know that the complainant is mentally impaired,
3.26 mentally incapacitated, or physically helpless;

3.27 (f) the actor is aided or abetted by one or more accomplices within the meaning of section
3.28 609.05, and either of the following circumstances exists:

3.29 (i) an accomplice uses force or coercion to cause the complainant to submit; or

4.1 (ii) an accomplice is armed with a dangerous weapon or any article used or fashioned
 4.2 in a manner to lead the complainant to reasonably believe it to be a dangerous weapon and
 4.3 uses or threatens to use the weapon or article to cause the complainant to submit;

4.4 (g) the actor has a significant relationship to the complainant and the complainant was
 4.5 under 16 years of age at the time of the sexual contact. Neither mistake as to the complainant's
 4.6 age nor consent to the act by the complainant is a defense; or

4.7 (h) the actor has a significant relationship to the complainant, the complainant was under
 4.8 16 years of age at the time of the sexual contact, and:

4.9 (i) the actor or an accomplice used force or coercion to accomplish the contact;

4.10 (ii) the complainant suffered personal injury; or

4.11 (iii) the sexual abuse involved multiple acts committed over an extended period of time.

4.12 Neither mistake as to the complainant's age nor consent to the act by the complainant is
 4.13 a defense.

4.14 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective August 1, 2019, and applies to crimes
 4.15 committed on or after that date.

4.16 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 609.344, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

4.17 Subdivision 1. **Crime defined.** A person who engages in sexual penetration with another
 4.18 person is guilty of criminal sexual conduct in the third degree if any of the following
 4.19 circumstances exists:

4.20 (a) the complainant is under 13 years of age and the actor is no more than 36 months
 4.21 older than the complainant. Neither mistake as to the complainant's age nor consent to the
 4.22 act by the complainant shall be a defense;

4.23 (b) the complainant is at least 13 but less than 16 years of age and the actor is more than
 4.24 24 months older than the complainant. In any such case if the actor is no more than 120
 4.25 months older than the complainant, it shall be an affirmative defense, which must be proved
 4.26 by a preponderance of the evidence, that the actor reasonably believes the complainant to
 4.27 be 16 years of age or older. In all other cases, mistake as to the complainant's age shall not
 4.28 be a defense. Consent by the complainant is not a defense;

4.29 (c) the actor uses force or coercion to accomplish the penetration;

4.30 (d) the actor knows or has reason to know that the complainant is mentally impaired,
 4.31 mentally incapacitated, or physically helpless;

5.1 (e) the complainant is at least 16 but less than 18 years of age and the actor is more than
5.2 48 months older than the complainant and in a current or recent position of authority over
5.3 the complainant. Neither mistake as to the complainant's age nor consent to the act by the
5.4 complainant is a defense;

5.5 (f) the actor has a significant relationship to the complainant and the complainant was
5.6 at least 16 but under 18 years of age at the time of the sexual penetration. Neither mistake
5.7 as to the complainant's age nor consent to the act by the complainant is a defense;

5.8 (g) the actor has a significant relationship to the complainant, the complainant was at
5.9 least 16 but under 18 years of age at the time of the sexual penetration, and:

5.10 (i) the actor or an accomplice used force or coercion to accomplish the penetration;

5.11 (ii) the complainant suffered personal injury; or

5.12 (iii) the sexual abuse involved multiple acts committed over an extended period of time.

5.13 Neither mistake as to the complainant's age nor consent to the act by the complainant is
5.14 a defense;

5.15 (h) the actor is a psychotherapist and the complainant is a patient of the psychotherapist
5.16 and the sexual penetration occurred:

5.17 (i) during the psychotherapy session; or

5.18 (ii) outside the psychotherapy session if an ongoing psychotherapist-patient relationship
5.19 exists.

5.20 Consent by the complainant is not a defense;

5.21 (i) the actor is a psychotherapist and the complainant is a former patient of the
5.22 psychotherapist and the former patient is emotionally dependent upon the psychotherapist;

5.23 (j) the actor is a psychotherapist and the complainant is a patient or former patient and
5.24 the sexual penetration occurred by means of therapeutic deception. Consent by the
5.25 complainant is not a defense;

5.26 (k) the actor accomplishes the sexual penetration by means of deception or false
5.27 representation that the penetration is for a bona fide medical purpose. Consent by the
5.28 complainant is not a defense;

5.29 (l) the actor is or purports to be a member of the clergy, the complainant is not married
5.30 to the actor, and:

6.1 (i) the sexual penetration occurred during the course of a meeting in which the
 6.2 complainant sought or received religious or spiritual advice, aid, or comfort from the actor
 6.3 in private; or

6.4 (ii) the sexual penetration occurred during a period of time in which the complainant
 6.5 was meeting on an ongoing basis with the actor to seek or receive religious or spiritual
 6.6 advice, aid, or comfort in private. Consent by the complainant is not a defense;

6.7 (m) the actor is an employee, independent contractor, or volunteer of a state, county,
 6.8 city, or privately operated adult or juvenile correctional system, or secure treatment facility,
 6.9 or treatment facility providing services to clients civilly committed as mentally ill and
 6.10 dangerous, sexually dangerous persons, or sexual psychopathic personalities, including, but
 6.11 not limited to, jails, prisons, detention centers, or work release facilities, and the complainant
 6.12 is a resident of a facility or under supervision of the correctional system. Consent by the
 6.13 complainant is not a defense;

6.14 (n) the actor provides or is an agent of an entity that provides special transportation
 6.15 service, the complainant used the special transportation service, and the sexual penetration
 6.16 occurred during or immediately before or after the actor transported the complainant. Consent
 6.17 by the complainant is not a defense; or

6.18 (o) the actor performs massage or other bodywork for hire, the complainant was a user
 6.19 of one of those services, and nonconsensual sexual penetration occurred during or
 6.20 immediately before or after the actor performed or was hired to perform one of those services
 6.21 for the complainant.

6.22 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective August 1, 2019, and applies to crimes
 6.23 committed on or after that date.

6.24 Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 609.345, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

6.25 Subdivision 1. **Crime defined.** A person who engages in sexual contact with another
 6.26 person is guilty of criminal sexual conduct in the fourth degree if any of the following
 6.27 circumstances exists:

6.28 (a) the complainant is under 13 years of age and the actor is no more than 36 months
 6.29 older than the complainant. Neither mistake as to the complainant's age or consent to the
 6.30 act by the complainant is a defense. In a prosecution under this clause, the state is not
 6.31 required to prove that the sexual contact was coerced;

6.32 (b) the complainant is at least 13 but less than 16 years of age and the actor is more than
 6.33 48 months older than the complainant or in a current or recent position of authority over

7.1 the complainant. Consent by the complainant to the act is not a defense. In any such case,
7.2 if the actor is no more than 120 months older than the complainant, it shall be an affirmative
7.3 defense which must be proved by a preponderance of the evidence that the actor reasonably
7.4 believes the complainant to be 16 years of age or older. In all other cases, mistake as to the
7.5 complainant's age shall not be a defense;

7.6 (c) the actor uses force or coercion to accomplish the sexual contact;

7.7 (d) the actor knows or has reason to know that the complainant is mentally impaired,
7.8 mentally incapacitated, or physically helpless;

7.9 (e) the complainant is at least 16 but less than 18 years of age and the actor is more than
7.10 48 months older than the complainant and in a current or recent position of authority over
7.11 the complainant. Neither mistake as to the complainant's age nor consent to the act by the
7.12 complainant is a defense;

7.13 (f) the actor has a significant relationship to the complainant and the complainant was
7.14 at least 16 but under 18 years of age at the time of the sexual contact. Neither mistake as to
7.15 the complainant's age nor consent to the act by the complainant is a defense;

7.16 (g) the actor has a significant relationship to the complainant, the complainant was at
7.17 least 16 but under 18 years of age at the time of the sexual contact, and:

7.18 (i) the actor or an accomplice used force or coercion to accomplish the contact;

7.19 (ii) the complainant suffered personal injury; or

7.20 (iii) the sexual abuse involved multiple acts committed over an extended period of time.

7.21 Neither mistake as to the complainant's age nor consent to the act by the complainant is
7.22 a defense;

7.23 (h) the actor is a psychotherapist and the complainant is a patient of the psychotherapist
7.24 and the sexual contact occurred:

7.25 (i) during the psychotherapy session; or

7.26 (ii) outside the psychotherapy session if an ongoing psychotherapist-patient relationship
7.27 exists. Consent by the complainant is not a defense;

7.28 (i) the actor is a psychotherapist and the complainant is a former patient of the
7.29 psychotherapist and the former patient is emotionally dependent upon the psychotherapist;

8.1 (j) the actor is a psychotherapist and the complainant is a patient or former patient and
8.2 the sexual contact occurred by means of therapeutic deception. Consent by the complainant
8.3 is not a defense;

8.4 (k) the actor accomplishes the sexual contact by means of deception or false representation
8.5 that the contact is for a bona fide medical purpose. Consent by the complainant is not a
8.6 defense;

8.7 (l) the actor is or purports to be a member of the clergy, the complainant is not married
8.8 to the actor, and:

8.9 (i) the sexual contact occurred during the course of a meeting in which the complainant
8.10 sought or received religious or spiritual advice, aid, or comfort from the actor in private; or

8.11 (ii) the sexual contact occurred during a period of time in which the complainant was
8.12 meeting on an ongoing basis with the actor to seek or receive religious or spiritual advice,
8.13 aid, or comfort in private. Consent by the complainant is not a defense;

8.14 (m) the actor is an employee, independent contractor, or volunteer of a state, county,
8.15 city, or privately operated adult or juvenile correctional system, or secure treatment facility,
8.16 or treatment facility providing services to clients civilly committed as mentally ill and
8.17 dangerous, sexually dangerous persons, or sexual psychopathic personalities, including, but
8.18 not limited to, jails, prisons, detention centers, or work release facilities, and the complainant
8.19 is a resident of a facility or under supervision of the correctional system. Consent by the
8.20 complainant is not a defense;

8.21 (n) the actor provides or is an agent of an entity that provides special transportation
8.22 service, the complainant used the special transportation service, the complainant is not
8.23 married to the actor, and the sexual contact occurred during or immediately before or after
8.24 the actor transported the complainant. Consent by the complainant is not a defense; or

8.25 (o) the actor performs massage or other bodywork for hire, the complainant was a user
8.26 of one of those services, and nonconsensual sexual contact occurred during or immediately
8.27 before or after the actor performed or was hired to perform one of those services for the
8.28 complainant.

8.29 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective August 1, 2019, and applies to crimes
8.30 committed on or after that date.